



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913  
PH (517) 373.1758 | FAX (517) 373.0938  
[www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/cassis/](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/cassis/)

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Contact: Lisa Posthumus  
517-373-1758

## **Senator Cassis Applauds Supplemental Funding for I-96 Wixom/Beck Road Project** *Cassis to Attend "Priorities First" Transportation Meeting May 5*

(LANSING) – State Sen. Nancy Cassis, R-Novi, today announced supplemental funding that will restore critical state dollars for the continuation of the I-96 and Wixom and Beck roads interchange repair projects.

The funding was announced through the "Priorities First" program, legislation that will allow local communities to continue critical road projects which Gov. Jennifer Granholm recently deferred.

"The Traffic Improvement Association of Oakland County has been steadfast in their desire for the state to make these two road projects a priority for their safety and congestion needs," Cassis said. "The passage of the \$6 million bond last November is a clear indication that residents of Novi want these interchanges repaired immediately."

In November, 2002 voters of Novi passed a bond that included \$6 million that contributes to state funding which allows for the repair of the Beck Road Interchange along the ever-growing I-96 economic corridor.

In order to accommodate 200 new beds at Providence Park and the relocation of the Novi Expo Center at the Beck Road interchange, as well as the new Catholic Central High School campus that will use Wixom Road as an avenue, it became clear that immediate construction is necessary to accommodate the influx in traffic and safety concerns.

**(MORE)**

Residents of Oakland County will have the opportunity to voice their opinion regarding funding for these two projects at a Senate Transportation Committee hearing scheduled for Monday, May 5, at 7:00 p.m., at the Oakland County Commission Auditorium in Pontiac.

Senator Cassis will testify before members of the Committee to express the importance these two road projects.